

# CC 101: The Ancient World Fall 2006

Tuesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Tsai Performance Center

## Faculty

Ellen Birnbaum (Core)

Franco Cirulli (Core)

David Eckel (Religion)

Stephen Esposito (Classics)

Jennifer Formichelli (Core)

David Green (Writing/Core)

Brad Herling (Core)

Brian Jorgensen (English/Core)

Stefan Kalt (Core)

Bernice Lerner (SED)

Katherine O'Connor (Modern Languages)

Robert Richardson (Modern Languages)

David Roochnik (Philosophy)

James Wood (Core)

**Core Humanities** is a four-semester sequence of courses that explore some of the world's finest and most influential works of literature, philosophy, religion, and the arts. The courses follow a chronological sequence that allows students to look at texts from the perspectives of their authors and original audiences and also to discover the qualities that make them timeless and enduring classics.

**The First Semester** introduces students to two fundamental components of the Western tradition: the world of the Hebrew Scriptures and the culture of the ancient Greeks. The course also considers the Babylonians and other peoples to whom the Hebrews and Greeks are indebted. Among the topics for the semester are: the character of a hero, the relationship between heroes and ordinary human beings, God or the gods, ancient cities, friendship and love, the meaning of justice. Key issues include: human experience of the divine, war (or man's struggle with human and natural forces whose essence is strife), the development of logos (human reason or cognition) as a response to the divine and to the forces of nature, and the development of art.

**Grades** will be determined by your seminar professor according to the university's regular grading system (A = 4.0, A- = 3.7, and so forth). Final grades will be based on a combination of written work, examinations, and class participation, in the following proportions:

Midterm exam	10%	Seminar papers	50%
Final exam	25%	Seminar attendance and participation	15%

**Midterm and Final Examinations** will be set by the faculty as a whole and given on the dates listed below. Examinations will be based on the lectures, seminars, and readings. They will include factual, short essay, and long essay questions.

**Writing** is an essential component of the Core Curriculum and is coordinated closely with the Boston University Writing Program. Students who successfully complete both semesters of the first-year Core Humanities (CC 101 and 102) receive credit for WR 100. Students who successfully complete both semesters of the second-year Core Humanities or Social Sciences (CC 201 / 202 or CC 203 / 204) receive credit for WR 150.

Each seminar will require approximately 20 pages of writing over the course of the semester. Three assignments will be common to all seminars: a summary and commentary paper (2 pages), a paper involving the imitation and analysis of the style of a particular author (3 pages), and a thesis-driven paper with an argument analyzing a single work (5 pages). The remainder of the writing assignments will be developed by individual seminar leaders.

**The Core Writing Center** is available for help throughout the semester. Writing Tutors are graduate and undergraduate students who have been trained in grammar and compositional skills and are familiar with the works read in the Core. To make an appointment with a tutor, stop by the Core Office (CAS 119) or call 353-5404. The tutors' office is found in the Core Office.

**Academic Conduct:** All members of Boston University are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. We have the same expectations of each other in this course. Seminar leaders take the issue of plagiarism seriously and expect all the work you do in this course to be your own. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism and how it differs from the appropriate use of other people's work, consult the Academic Conduct Code or your instructor.

**Required Texts are available at the Boston University Bookstore:**

1. *Gilgamesh*, trans. David Ferry (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1992)
2. The Harper Collins Study Bible (New Revised Standard Version)
3. Homer, *The Odyssey*, trans. Robert Fitzgerald (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1998)
4. Aeschylus, *The Oresteia*, trans. Robert Fagles (New York: Penguin, 1975)
5. Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, trans. Rex Warner (New York: Penguin, 1972)
6. Plato, *The Republic*, trans. Allan Bloom (New York: Basic Books, 1968)
7. Jane Aaron, *The Little, Brown Essential Handbook for Writers*, fifth edition

**Schedule of Lectures and Examinations:**

- Week 1 (September 5) Introduction Lecturer: Professor Jorgensen
- Week 2 (September 12) The Hebrew Bible Lecturer: Professor Wiesel
- Week 3 (September 19) Genesis Lecturer: Professor Gillman
- Week 4 (September 26) Job Lecturer: Professor Eckel
- Week 5 (October 3) The Culture & Religion of Ancient Greece Lecturer: Prof. Scully
- **Monday, October 9, Columbus Day Holiday**
- **Tuesday, October 10 – Monday's Classes**
- Week 6 (October 17) *The Odyssey* Lecturer: Professor Esposito
- Week 7 (October 24) *The Oresteia* Lecturer: Professor Scully
- **Week 8 (October 31) MIDTERM EXAM**
- Week 9 (November 7) Thucydides Lecturer: Professor Samons
- Week 10 (November 14) *The Republic I* Lecturer: Professor Roochnik
- Week 11 (November 21) The Art of Classical Greece Lecturer: Professor Kleiner
- **Thanksgiving Break: Wednesday, November 22 to Sunday, November 26**
- Week 12 (November 28) *The Republic II* Lecturer: Professor Roochnik
- Week 13 (December 5) *The Republic III* Lecturer: Professor Hyland
- Tuesday (December 12) Conclusion Lecturers: The Professors of CC 101
- **Final Examination: Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 9-11 AM**